

Spark Gap

Vol. 31, Issue 7, July 2014 *MARC - Serving Central Indiana Communities for thirty-one years*

On Our MARC...

Hope everyone had a nice holiday. Weather was great!

I would like to thank all those that came out for Field Day. We had 18 members that came out to show support for the day. Weather was on our side for the day. Steve Brown, N9LC, set up a tent and was planning on staying the night until his batteries ran out. Steve Carmen, K9DY and Jack Parker, W8ISH set up a pop up tent and started working outside. Steve was mostly working CW. Bruce, K9ICP, was inside talking with Sheriff Doug Cox who showed up to support our club and thanked us for everything that we do to help out the county. Rusty, N9LLP, Cindy, and Mike Rose, KC9WLR worked the night shift. We made 287 contracts in the 24 hour period. We logged 41 States, 3 Canadian Provinces and 8 Countries.

Chris Mazzarella stopped by Saturday and brought his daughter and son. Chris's daughter, Nicole, will be studying to take her Tech test. She said can't wait to get licensed. Andrew brought his kids down on Sunday.

I would like to thank Brian Murrey, KB9BVN, and Andrew Murrey, N9AWM for picking up the food and bringing a grill and handling the grilling of the hot dogs.

Again, thank you for all the hard work. Everyone seemed to be having a great time.

Next on our agenda is Aug 9th Tech Class. Bruce, K9ICP, is working on getting the instructors together to get the ball rolling for the class.

Our July speaker will be Steve Curtis, ND9C, talking about Fox Hunting.

See you Saturday. Coffee will be on.

Jacki-KI6QOG
President



BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

KF9NF-Tom Daugherty
KC9CCM-Marc Snell
W9TAR-Tim Roberson

FIELD DAY 2014 JOHNSON COUNTY

Here are the results after I input and merged the paper and computer logs:

Total Contacts = 287

Total Points = 368

Operating Period: 2014/06/28 19:05 - 2014/06/29 04:04

Total Contacts by Band and Mode:

Band	CW	Phone	Dig	Total	%
80	7	9	0	16	6
40	4	88	0	92	32
20	50	82	0	132	46
15	20	27	0	47	16

Total	81	206	0	287	100

In addition, we worked:

41 States

3 Canadian Provinces

8 Countries

Based on results posted for 2013 Field Day, this score would have put us in #12 of 17 stations in that class. None were in Indiana.

Steve K9DY

** Please check out the MARC Field Day activities on www.midstatehams.org



Coffee Break Training



In this month's installment of Coffee Break Training, we continue to familiarize ourselves with the Disaster Assistance application process for those affected by a disaster. In this series, concluding with the December edition, we review making an application not only for FEMA assistance but applying for assistance with the Small Business Administration or the SBA. In some cases where FEMA cannot justify a 'FEMA disaster declaration', FEMA will use an 'SBA Declaration' to help residents of an affected area with financial assistance recovering the losses experienced. The below is a copy of the news release by FEMA Region V relating to the storms and disaster declaration from last year in Illinois.

Federal Aid Programs for Disaster Recovery

We've had a tornado and homes are destroyed – what's next? The process of getting a Presidential disaster declaration begins with storm damage surveys. Our storm damage information is reported to Indiana DHS and is compiled into a report to the Indiana Governors office. The Governor makes a disaster declaration and lists the counties affected. The Governor will, with the assistance of the Indiana DHS Office, prepare a package of information to request a Presidential disaster declaration and up channel it FEMA Region V Headquarters in Chicago. FEMA will review the request and forward it to the President of the United States for a declaration. Once the President of the United States declares a federal disaster declaration, FEMA is given a mission number and authorized to deploy to the area and begin their response.

Following is a summary of key federal disaster aid programs that can be made available *as needed and warranted* under a Presidential disaster declaration.

Assistance for Affected Individuals and Families Can Include *as Required*:

- Rental payments for temporary housing for those whose homes are unlivable. Initial assistance may be provided for up to three months for homeowners and at least one month for renters. Assistance may be extended if requested after the initial period based on a review of individual applicant requirements. *(Source: FEMA funded and administered.)*
- Grants for home repairs and replacement of essential household items not covered by insurance to make damaged dwellings safe, sanitary and functional. *(Source: FEMA funded and administered.)*
- Grants to replace personal property and help meet medical, dental, funeral, transportation and other serious disaster-related needs not covered by insurance or other federal, state and charitable aid programs. *(Source: FEMA funded at 75 percent of total eligible costs; 25 percent funded by the state.)*
- Unemployment payments up to 26 weeks for workers who temporarily lost jobs because of the disaster and who do not qualify for state benefits, such as self-employed individuals. *(Source: FEMA funded; state administered.)*
- Low-interest loans to cover residential losses not fully compensated by insurance. Loans available up to \$200,000 for primary residence; \$40,000 for personal property, including renter losses. Loans available up to \$2 million for business property losses not fully compensated by insurance. *(Source: U.S. Small Business Administration.)*
- Loans up to \$2 million for small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives and most private, non-profit organizations of all sizes that have suffered disaster-related cash flow problems and need funds for

working capital to recover from the disaster's adverse economic impact. This loan in combination with a property loss loan cannot exceed a total of \$2 million. (Source: U.S. Small Business Administration.)

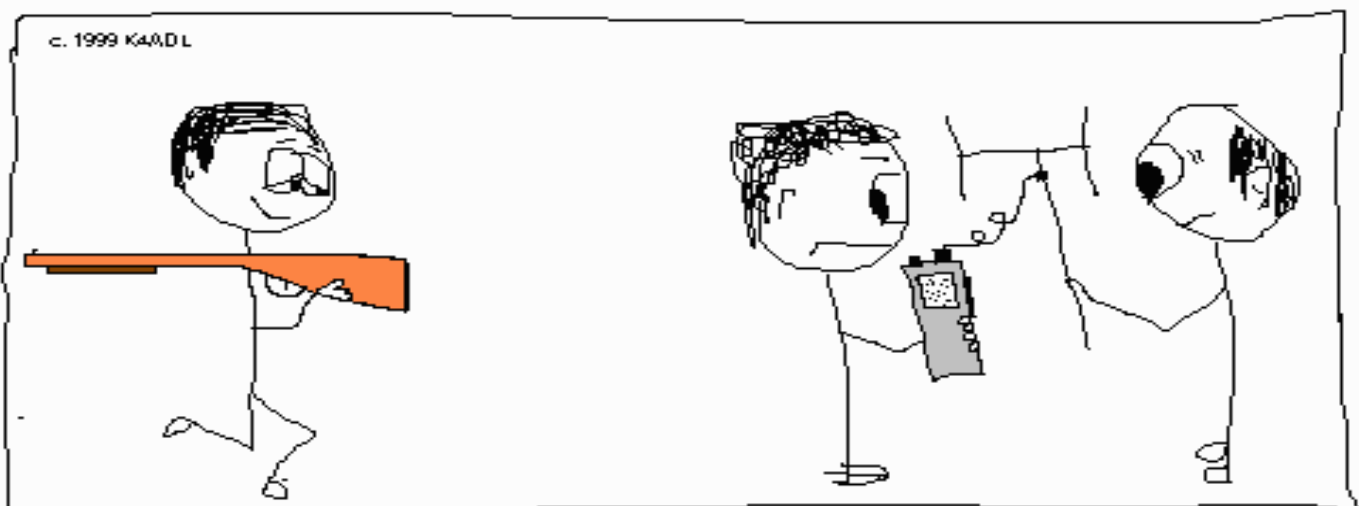
- Loans up to \$500,000 for farmers, ranchers and aquaculture operators to cover production and property losses, excluding primary residence. (Source: Farm Service Agency, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.)
- Other relief programs: Crisis counseling for those traumatized by the disaster; income tax assistance for filing casualty losses; advisory assistance for legal, veterans' benefits and social security matters.

How to Apply for Assistance:

- Affected individuals and business owners in designated areas can begin the disaster application process by registering online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov or by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362). Disaster assistance applicants, who have a speech disability or hearing loss and use TTY, should call 1-800-462-7585 directly; for those who use 711 or Video Relay Service (VRS), call 1-800-621-3362. The toll-free telephone numbers will operate seven days a week until further notice. Applicants registering for aid should be prepared to provide basic information about themselves (name, permanent address, phone number), insurance coverage and any other information to help substantiate losses.
- Anyone, whether they have immediate needs or obvious damage are encouraged to apply with FEMA for assistance. You may find damage or have a need to file a claim later but may not be able to if the application window has closed. Applying at the start ensures you can get assistance later.

FEMA's Mission is: To support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

This month's MARC speaker is Steve ND9C and his topic is Fox Hunting.



NEVER ONE TO PAY CLOSE ATTENTION AT CLUB MEETINGS,
PHILLIP ARRIVES INCORRECTLY EQUIPPED FOR THE ANNUAL FOX HUNT.

Ham radio operators more than just enthusiasts

Thursday, July 03, 2014

By Gregory A. Phillips

Staff Writer

Clay County Today Clay County, Florida

ORANGE PARK – Despite all of the modern forms of communication, such as smart phones, text messaging, social media and Internet chat, one communication medium is standing the tests of time.

Last weekend, ham radio operators from the Clay County Amateur Radio Emergency Services and the Orange Park Amateur Radio Club celebrated the climax of the week long "Amateur Radio Week" in partnership with the American Radio Relay League. The field day – held at Orange Park High School – allowed club members to check their radio equipment to ensure it will work at peak proficiency in the case of an emergency. Local ham radio operators are often called on to augment the communications abilities of emergency services providers around the country.

During the height of 2012's Super Storm Sandy, some municipalities in the Northeast Atlantic area completely lost their communications abilities. Unable to direct emergency personnel to where they were needed, those municipalities reached out to the ham radio operators from around the country for help, including those from Clay County.

"Sometimes in a storm like that, they can't connect to their responders directly. That's where we come in. We relayed directions for emergency responders letting them know where they were needed," said Scott Roberts, public information officer for Clay County Amateur Radio Emergency Services. "We also relayed messages between family members letting them know their families were safe and sound."

In times of catastrophic weather emergencies, the CCARES ham radio operators are ready to help when other forms of media, such as smart phones and other Internet communications fail.

"Atmospheric conditions do affect the range of our signals. What's funny is how I can talk to someone in Atlanta and then 10 minutes later Atlanta won't be able to hear me, but someone in Colorado will," Roberts said.

CCARES also assists the Clay County Sheriff's Office to help ensure safety on local waterways via the Marine Volunteers in Police Service program. They are working with the Marine Patrol of the CCSO to coordinate safety inspections by the marine patrol as well as responding to emergency calls.

Ham radio operators, or hams, are required to have a license from the Federal Communications Commission as part of the Communications Act of 1934. In the U.S., there are three license classes – technician, general and extra.

"The differences in the licenses are in the operating capabilities. Generally, the higher the license, the more frequencies you can broadcast on [legally]," said Mike Hendershot, an assistant emergency coordinator with CCARES.

An estimated six million people are still involved with this hobby that began at the start of the 20th century. HAM radio operators communicate with each other using short wave radio, a technology that has grown since its development.

What once was housing filled with vacuum tubes and transistors are comprised of microprocessors and digital signal processors today. As the science grows, the strength and abilities of these ham radio operators will grow in kind. But there is still a potential need to keep one foot in the past.

"I've been doing this for 56 years. I'm here manning the [Morse Code] radio for the field day," said Clarence Keros. "Several years ago they removed the requirement to know Morse Code from the test to get your license. There's probably only about 30-percent of the licensed people who still know it. But what happens in the event of an Electro Magnetic Pulse? All of the new radios are useless and we're back to vacuum packed tubes and Morse code."

Currently there are 48 members of the Clay County Amateur Radio Emergency Services and 93 members in the Orange Park Amateur Radio Club.

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR



- July 12 Indianapolis Hamfest Marion County Fair Grounds**
- Sept. 6 & 7 Heartnut Festival Johnson County Park, Edinburgh**
- Sept. 27 Greenwood H. S. Marching Band Invitational, Greenwood**

Radiogrammar

Across

1. Sea eagles
 5. 1950s car maker
 9. Face-to-face exams
 14. Ham's OM
 15. Director Preminger
 16. Come again
 17. NN, on 7.007, say
 18. Start of a conclusion
 19. It might be airtight
 20. Four and four ninth's?
 23. Coax adapters
 24. Rcvr ckt
 25. Squirrel food
 28. KH6U (SK)
 30. Smart or Bond
 33. QRS sending, not
 34. FD abode
 35. Joint with a cap
 36. 1, 13, 53 and 56-down, and a puzzle sub-theme

39. Swimming power supplies?
 40. Bit of trivia, slangily
 41. A Czech Republic prefix
 42. Driller's deg.
 43. Tiny parts
 44. Plates
 45. W7 sect.
 46. Flower tower?
 47. Two-hundred ten?
 53. Jeered
 54. Surf's ound
 55. TA-33 part
 57. Kazakhs tan prefix
 58. Gawk at
 59. Dipole terminators

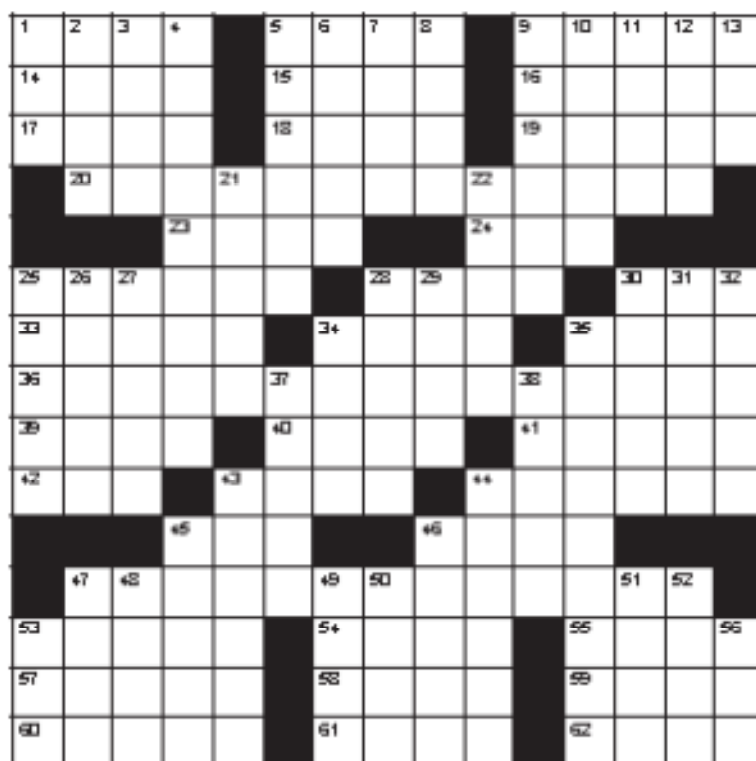
60. Dings
 61. SU river
 62. Compass symbol

Down

1. FB RS T., in the DX test, say
 2. Easy antenna place
 3. Smaller than a micro
 4. Popular beef cuts
 5. Meaning of 17-across
 6. Monk Apollo's QTH
 7. R followers
 8. Nozzle site
 9. Three on a resistor
 10. Museum piece
 11. Label on a DC supply, say
 12. Garage job

13. Apologize, on 30m, say
 21. Big gain
 22. Bob Marley fan
 25. Flashed over
 26. Crowed
 27. Milky gems
 28. V4 place
 29. "Put a lid ____!"
 30. Hair net
 31. Edible tubes
 32. C C, on 7007, say
 34. Be inclined
 35. KM, on 7.007, say
 37. VU physicist and Nobel Prize winner
 38. Copier stuff
 43. SM ops

44. AM
 45. Special ____ station
 46. Play for time
 47. Kind of wave
 48. Like some piano keys
 49. High-tech suffix
 50. Cartoon bear
 51. Start of a conclusion
 52. What a long element does
 53. Not bad, on 7.007, say
 56. Word with QSL



ARRL Contest Schedule

July

12-13 IARU HF World Championship

August

2-3 August UHF

16-17 10 GHz & Up – Round 1

17 Rookie Roundup – RTTY September

13-15 September VHF

20-21 10 GHz & Up– Round 2

October

11-12 EME - 2.3 GHz & Up

20-24 School Club Roundup

November

1-3 Nov. Sweepstakes – CW

8-9 EME - 50 to 1296 MHz

15-17 Nov. Sweepstakes – Phone

December

5-7 160 Meter

6-7 EME - 50 to 1296 MHz

13-14 10 Meter

21 Rookie Roundup–CW

For more information on contesting please see the ARRL link:

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>



HAMFESTS

07/12/2014 | [Indianapolis Hamfest](#)

Location: Indianapolis, IN

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Indianapolis Amateur Radio Association

Website: <http://indyhamfest.com>

08/09/2014 | [Angola Hamfest](#)

Location: Angola, IN

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Land of Lakes Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.llarc.org>

09/20/2014 | [Hancock ARC Hamfest](#)

Location: Greenfield, IN

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Hancock Amateur Radio Club of Hancock County

Website: <http://www.w9atg.org>

10/04/2014 | [Hoosier Hills Hamfest](#)

Location: Mitchell, IN

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Hoosier Hills Ham Club

Website: <http://www.w9qyq.org/hamfest>

11/15/2014 | [Indiana State Convention \(Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo\)](#)

Location: Fort Wayne, IN

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

Website: <http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com>



MID-STATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club meets the THIRD SATURDAY of each month in the basement of the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, Indiana 46131.

See our website, www.midstatehams.org, for maps on how to get to our meeting.

Everyone is welcome; you do not have to be a HAM to attend our meetings or a member of the club.

WA9RDF
Repeater
146.835/
146.235 MHz
151.4 Hz PL Tone

Club Officers:
President: Jacki Frederick – KI6QOG
Vice President: Dave Daily – KB9LOT
Secretary: Rhonda Curtis– WS9H
Treasurer: Linda Harshbarger – KC9GCH
Repeater Trustee: Steve Brown – N9LC

Weekly Net: Sunday evening 7:00 PM ARES/RACES members and ALL RADIO AMATEURS

The Official Newsletter of the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

*P.O. Box 836
Franklin, Indiana
46131*

Editor: Robert LaGrange N9SIU

Please send your articles to my email n9siu@yahoo.com no later than the 3rd of the month

Answer to Radiogrammer:

